

CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION (RCA)

DEPARTMENT: Building Permits & Inspections

AGENDA DATE: November 30, 2004

CONTACT PERSON/PHONE: R. Alan Shubert, P.E.

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: _____

SUBJECT:

APPROVE a resolution / ordinance / lease to do what? **OR AUTHORIZE** the City Manager to do what? Be descriptive of what we want Council to approve. Include \$ amount if applicable.

An Ordinance amending Title 18 (Building and Construction), Chapter 18.24 (Gas Code), of the El Paso City Code, to adopt the 2003 edition of the International Fuel Gas Code with changes appropriate for the City of El Paso, with penalties not to exceed Two-Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per day per violation as provided in Section 18.02.107 of the El Paso City Code

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Discussion of the what, why, where, when, and how to enable Council to have reasonably complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action?

An Ordinance amending Title 18 (Building and Construction), Chapter 18.24 (Gas Code), of the El Paso City Code, to adopt the 2003 edition of the International Fuel Gas Code with changes appropriate for the City of El Paso, with penalties not to exceed Two-Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per day per violation as provided in Section 18.02.107 of the El Paso City Code

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one? If so, when?

N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer?

N/A

BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:

Enter appropriate comments or N/A

N/A

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

LEGAL: (if required) _____ **FINANCE:** (if required) _____

OTHER:

(Example: if RCA is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:

CITY MANAGER: _____

DATE: _____

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 18 (BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION), CHAPTER 18.24 (GAS CODE), OF THE EL PASO CITY CODE, TO ADOPT THE 2003 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE AND WITH CHANGES APPROPRIATE FOR THE CITY OF EL PASO, WITH PENALTIES NOT TO EXCEED TWO-THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) PER DAY PER VIOLATION AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 18.02.107 OF THE EL PASO CITY CODE.

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. 014731 enacted December 12, 2000 the 2000 edition of the International Fuel Gas Code of the International Code Council was adopted with changes appropriate for the City of El Paso; and

WHEREAS, the 2003 edition of the International Family of Codes has been published and adoption of the 2003 edition of the International Fuel Gas Code is now proposed; and

WHEREAS, the Building Permits & Inspections Director, the Building and Zoning Advisory Committee (BZAC) and the Development Coordinating Committee (DCC) have reviewed and favorably recommended the adoption of local amendments to the 2003 International Fuel Gas Code appropriate for the City of El Paso ; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has deemed the proposed modifications appropriate for the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of El Paso:

A. That Title 18 (Building and Construction), Chapter 18.24 (Gas Code), of the El Paso City Code, shall be and is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

18.24.010 Short Title.

This chapter may be cited as the El Paso Gas Code.

18.24.020 Adoption.

The book entitled "2003 International Fuel Gas Code" copies of which, authenticated by the signature of the Mayor and City Clerk, and made a public record by resolution of the City Council, are on file in the City Clerk's Office, are adopted as the Gas Code of the City, as fully as if copied at length in this Chapter, but with the changes set forth in this Chapter.

18.24.030 Chapter 1 - Administration - Deleted.

International Gas Code Chapter 1 - Administration is hereby deleted.

18.24.040 Chapter 18.02 Adopted - Administrative Code.

Chapter 18.02 - Building and Construction Administrative Code of the Municipal Code shall serve as the administrative chapter for the Gas Code.

18.24.050 Section 311 added --- Accessible and Acceptable Location.

Section 311 -- Accessible and Acceptable Location, shall be and is hereby added to read as follows:

311 Accessible and Acceptable Location.

A meter location, when required, shall be provided for the building or premises to be served. The location shall be such that the meter and connections are accessible in order that they may be read or changed. Space requirements, dimensions, and type of installation shall be acceptable to the gas company. Meter location will be determined by the utility company in conformance with their service franchise.

18.4.060 Section 401.2 Amended – Liquefied Petroleum Gas.

Section 401.2, Liquefied Petroleum Gas, shall be and hereby is amended to read as follows:

401.2 Liquefied Petroleum Gas.

The storage system for liquefied petroleum gas shall be designed, installed and an operational permit obtained in accordance with the Fire Code.

Exception: Liquefied Petroleum Gas system shall not be installed in Group R1, R2, R3 and R4 occupancies when a natural gas utility supply pipe is available within 300 feet of the buildings.

18.24.070 Section 404.3 Amended - Piping in Concealed Locations.

Section 404.3, Piping in Concealed Locations, shall be and hereby is amended to read as follows:

404.3 Piping in Concealed Locations.

Portions of a piping system installed in concealed locations shall not have unions, tubing fittings, bushings, compression couplings and swing joints made by combinations of fittings.

Exceptions: 1. Tubing joined by brazing
2. Fittings listed for use in concealed locations.

18.24.080 Section 404.15.1 added --- Prohibited Fittings.

Section 404.15.1 -- Prohibited Fittings, shall be and hereby is added to read as follows:

404.15.1 Prohibited Fittings.

The use of unnecessary tees or fittings in the yard or house service line is prohibited.

18.24.090 Section 406.4 Amended --- Test Pressure Measurement.

Section 406.4 – Test Pressure Measurement, shall be and hereby is amended to read as follows:

406.4 Test Pressure Measurement.

Test pressure shall be measured with a manometer or with a pressure-measuring device designed and calibrated to read, record, or indicate a pressure loss caused by leakage during the pressure test period. The source of pressure shall be isolated before the pressure tests are made. Mechanical gauges used to measure test pressures shall have a range such that the highest end of the scale is not greater than two (2) times the test pressure. Tests requiring a pressure of 10 psi or less shall utilize a testing gauge having increments of 0.20 psi or less. Tests requiring a pressure greater than 10 psi but less than or equal to 100 psi shall utilize a testing gauge having increments of 1 psi or less. Tests requiring a pressure of greater than 60 psi shall utilize a testing gauge having increments of 2 psi or less.

18.24.100 Section 406.4.1 amended --- Test Pressure.

Section 406.4.1 – Test Pressure, shall be and hereby is amended to read as follows:

406.4.1 Test Pressure.

Low pressure gas piping shall withstand a pressure of at least 10 psi or 16 inches of mercury. Higher pressure gas piping shall withstand a pressure of at least 60 psi on a clock gauge with a printed record chart. For the purposes of this section, “low pressure” shall mean pressure equal to or less than 0.5 psi.

18.24.110 Section 406.4.2 amended --- Test Duration.

Section 406.4.2 – Test Duration, shall be and hereby is amended to read as follows:

406.4.2 Test duration.

Test duration shall be not less than 15 minutes for low pressure gas piping and not less than 4 hours for higher pressure gas piping.

18.24.120 Section 406.4.3 amended --- Manufactured Homes.

Section 406.4.3 -- Manufactured Homes, shall be and hereby is amended to read as follows:

406.4.3. Manufactured Homes.

Appliance installations in manufactured housing meeting the requirements of the Texas Manufactured Housing Standards Act, or in industrialized housing or industrialized buildings meeting the requirements of the Texas Industrialized Housing and Building Act or bearing the Federal Compliance Plate (ANSI-A119.1), including the appliance connections and the fuel gas piping system, shall not be subject to the provisions of this Code except for the test provisions of Section 406.

18.24.130 Section 416 Added --- Over 1-PSI Gas Piping.

Section 416 shall be and hereby is added to read as follows:

Section 416

OVER 1-PSI GAS PIPING

416.1 Scope and Responsibility

Under this section appear additional fundamental requirements for the installation of consumer gas piping system using over 1-psi gas pressure. Responsibility for observing these requirements shall rest with the installing agency.

416.2 Requirements.

The requirements of the Gas Code are applicable to over 1-psi gas piping installations except as such requirements are modified in this chapter. Over 1-psi gas piping systems designed in accordance with this chapter and other requirements of this Code are intended for use where the building service regulator has been set to deliver gas at over 1-psi.

416.3 Over 1-PSI Piping System.

Systems designed for over 1-psi gas pressure downstream of the meter shall adhere to all requirements of this Code, of the Gas Utility, and as follows:

1. Drawings and calculations, including site plan and gas piping diagrams shall be submitted to the Gas Utility for approval.
2. The gas pressure shall be regulated to ounces before entering any building or structure, unless otherwise approved by the Gas Utility.
3. All underground lines and above-ground lines within six (6) inches of the ground shall be of wrapped steel. Joints in underground lines and above-ground lines within six (6) inches of the ground shall be welded. Approved plastic pipe may be installed underground, outside buildings, without wrapping.
4. All above-ground lines installed more than six (6) inches above the ground inside buildings shall be of wrapped or bare steel and shall use only welded pipe joints.
5. Gas lines, located outside buildings, and more than 6 inches above ground and operating at up to 5-psi pressure may be installed with approved threaded joints.

18.24.140 Appendices.

The appendices, unless specifically adopted or referenced, are retained as administrative guidance aids.

18.24.150 Conflicting Ordinances

All Ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed as follows:

Ordinances No. 014731, 12-12-2000.

Except as expressly amended herein, Title 18 (Building and Construction) shall remain in

full force and effect.

- B.** All references to the ICC Electrical Code shall be construed to mean the El Paso Electrical Code.
- C.** The effective date of this ordinance shall be _____; this ordinance shall be applicable to all permit applications received on or after that date.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2004.


CITY OF EL PASO

Joe Wardy
Mayor

ATTEST:


Richarda Duffy Momsen
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Lisa A. Hayes
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



R. Alan Shubert, Director
Building Permitting & Inspections Dept.